

Democratic Party. The condition of our local communities stands at the heart of our Nation's well being, and we should all commend and find ourselves humbled by those individuals who dedicate themselves to their specific improvement and prosperity. Barbara Graves is one such individual and, for her great work, is being honored by the Santa Cruz County Democratic Central Committee, SCCDC, as the 2005 Democrat of the Year.

Barbara has worked tirelessly to improve and protect her community, having served as Capitola's alternate on the Regional Transportation Commission, Capitola's representative to the Advisory Committee of the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District, Chair of Capitola Walks Club, the Ventana Chapter's Delegate Alternate to the Sierra Club's National Council, Chair of the local Sierra Club Political Committee, and Treasurer of the Environmental Council of Santa Cruz County. Ms. Graves serves currently as the Region 9 Director and Environmental Caucus Secretary of the California Democratic Party, and contributes in no small way to the betterment of her community by coordinating both the non-profit "Traffic Busters in Schools" and WAVE. As part of her dedication to the Democratic Party and with the hopes of fostering political innovation she also coordinates the Santa Cruz County Precinct Captains Program providing, among other things, free training on the use of campaign data tools.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor Ms. Barbara Graves as an exceptional citizen and community leader. Barbara's ongoing service to the Democratic Party and undaunted commitment to her community show her as an example to all those who wonder how it is that one person might affect real, substantial change, and I commend the Santa Cruz County D.C.C. on their recognition of Barbara's work and achievement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to honor this exemplary individual.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTHDAY OF RENEE ROSE, A GREAT CALIFORNIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 65th birthday of a great Californian, a great American and a great friend. Renee Rose—a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, daughter, colleague, one-time potential mayoral candidate, world traveler, restaurant and theatre connoisseur.

While not a native of California, Renee is as much a part of the San Francisco landscape as is the Golden Gate Bridge (but a few years younger). To all who have been befriended, or mothered by Renee—which is more than I could possibly get in this statement—she is a loyal, thoughtful, funny and incredibly giving friend that everyone treasures and feel blessed that Renee is part of their life. If we only go around once in life—everyone needs a Renee in it. May I also mention that she makes one heck-of-a chocolate fudge brownie. I salute you Renee and wish you a very happy birthday!

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the birthday of Renee Rose. I urge my colleagues

to join me in honoring this remarkable woman and the contributions she has made to California.

CONGRATULATING DOROTHY H. FINLEY ON RECEIVING THE ARIZONA THEATRE COMPANY'S GEORGY AWARD

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to draw attention to the accomplishments of a personal friend and longtime community leader, Dorothy H. Finley of Tucson, Arizona. On September 24, 2005, Dorothy will receive the Arizona Theatre Company's (ATC) "Georgy Award" at its Gala 2005 for her outstanding contributions to theater in the Tucson community.

As a longtime donor to ATC, Dorothy has served on ATC's Board of Trustees for many years and has sponsored partnerships between the theatre and Tucson schools. Her public service commitments include a wide range of organizations including non-profit groups and community associations including the Greater Tucson Economic Council, Arizona Aerospace Foundation, and the University of Arizona Alumni Association. Additionally, she serves on a number of governor-appointed positions including the Arizona State Liquor Board and the Governor's Council on Workforce Policy.

A native Arizonan, Dorothy has been a part of the Miller Brewing Company since 1948 when she and her late husband, Harold Finley, began the distributorship in Cochise county. Today, under her leadership, the company serves retailers throughout Pima, Pinal, and Santa Cruz counties.

A strong proponent of quality education, Dorothy has also been active in the academic arena. She has served as both a teacher and principal in the Tucson Unified School District for over 30 years. In addition, she was elected as Chairman of the TUSD Elementary School Principals, has served as President of the Arizona Elementary School Administrators, served on the Pima Community College Foundation Board of Directors, and founded the Women's Studies Advisory Council at the University of Arizona. In December 1994, she was nominated by the University of Arizona College of Education to receive the Alumni Association Sidney S. Woods Service Award for her outstanding service to the College and to the University.

In 1989, Dorothy received the Woman of the Year Award, and in 1994 she was named one of Tucson's Most Influential People. Dorothy was also honored at the Pentagon with the 2003 Honorary Zachary and Elizabeth National Distinguished Civilian Humanitarian Award.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, I am honored to recognize Ms. Finley for receiving this prestigious award, and to express my gratitude for her service and leadership. Her deep commitment to the advancement of community culture and education has had a tremendous impact in the Tucson community. It is with great pleasure that I congratulate my friend Dorothy H. Finley today for this award, which duly recognizes her important work.

A TRIBUTE TO SANDRA HOLMAN- BACOTE

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Sandra Holman-Bacote, upon her retirement as a Regional Director of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission which is mandated to enforce the Commonwealth's laws against discrimination.

During her 29-year tenure, Ms. Bacote has served five governors. She was the highest ranking woman in the State civil service system and she has provided exemplary service to the residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Under her direction, the Philadelphia regional office, which has the responsibility to direct the Commission's investigative, enforcement and adjudication responsibilities in Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties, has been widely recognized because of its commitment and continuity of diligence, effectiveness and accessibility.

Fiercely committed to human and civil rights her appointment to the PHRC in 1976 was a natural fit. A distinguished alumnus of Temple University and the University of Pennsylvania, she was a part of the academic vanguard to integrate public administration and professional social work theory. Applying these disciplines she further expanded her portfolio to include international racism and discrimination as an official observer to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of Racism and Discrimination, in Geneva, Switzerland in 1983 and as a member of a non-Governmental Organization delegation to the United Nations Convention on the Status of Women in Nairobi, Kenya in 1985.

Throughout her career she has involved herself with hands-on community building efforts by serving on scores of community and civil rights organizations.

And as we look at her nearly three decades of leadership in the PHRC we see that she has successfully and valiantly combined government service, a sensitive and informed global perspective and a profound commitment to community and family.

WEST DEER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the West Deer Volunteer Fire Department, WDVFD, on their 60th anniversary of service.

Over the past 60 years the WDVFD has maintained its mission of protecting the residents of Deer Township. Serving nearly 12,000 people and almost 29,000 square miles, the WDVFD has established a tremendous amount of respect among the community for their public service. Since 1945, the WDVFD has developed, maintained, and strengthened a strong mutual trust and open communication between the fire department and the community in which it protects.